



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOPLIN MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Joplin, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for possessing child pornography.

Alvin L. Smith, 59, of Joplin, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to 10 years in federal prison without parole. **Smith** was subject to that mandatory minimum sentence, Graves explained, due to a 1983 conviction for sexual assault on a minor in Newton County, Mo. The court also ordered **Smith** to forfeit to the government the computer, hard drive, software and disks used to commit the offense.

On April 15, 2004, **Smith** pleaded guilty to possession of child pornography. **Smith** admitted that he was in possession of a computer hard drive and computer disks containing child pornography on Oct. 1, 2003. Some of the images, Graves explained, included video clips. **Smith** admitted that he obtained the images on-line and copied some of them to computer disks. **Smith** also admitted that he sent child pornography to another person as an e-mail attachment on June 11, 2003.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Jasper County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow